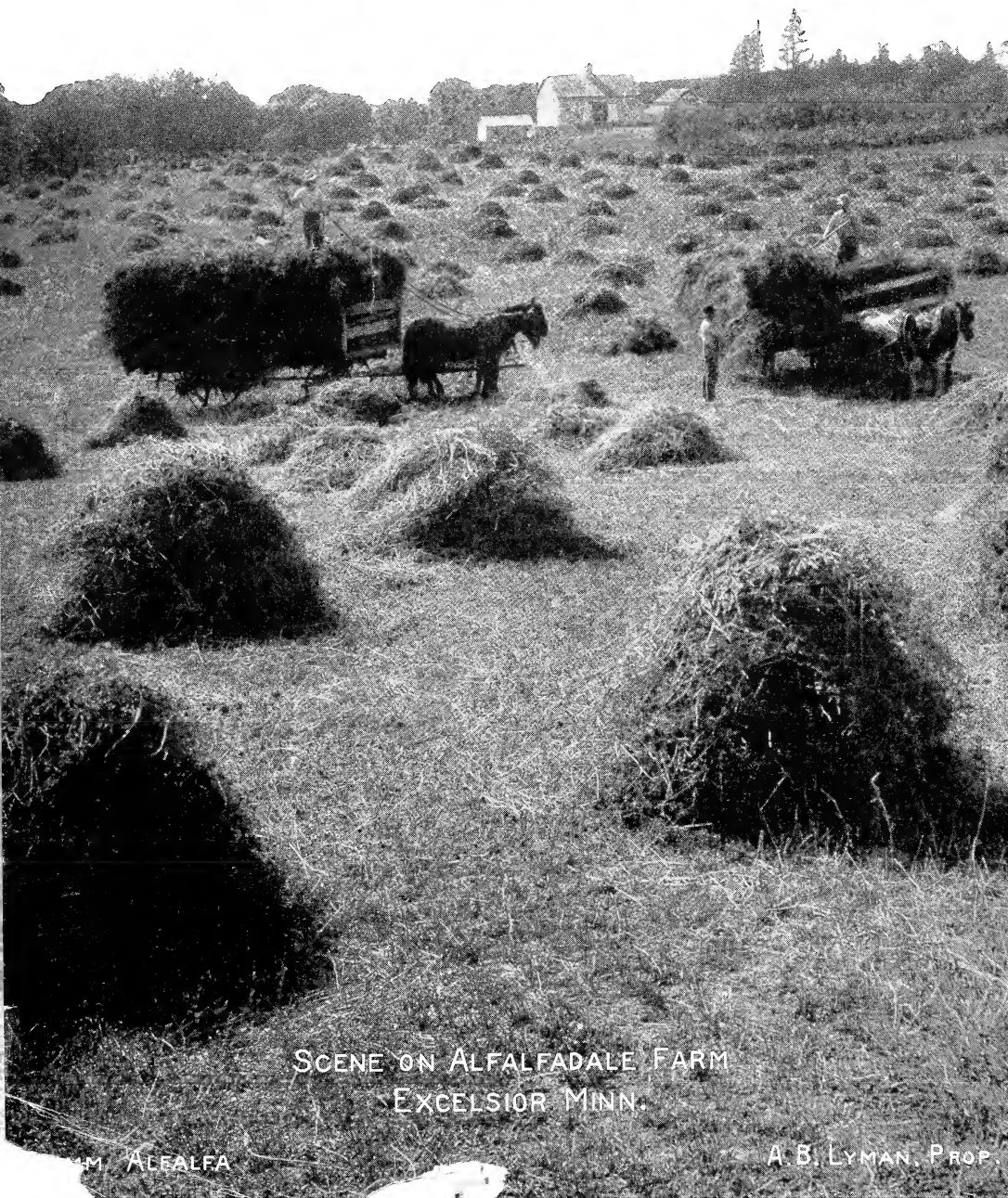


Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

Lyman's Grimm ALFALFA



SCENE ON ALFALFADALE FARM
EXCELSIOR MINN.

ALFALFA

A. B. LYMAN, PROP.

HOW I DISCOVERED THE GRIMM ALFALFA

In 1890 while teaching school some ten miles west of home in Carver county we found the farmers growing alfalfa or "Ewiger Klee" (everlasting clover) they called it. I took a sample of the hay home and showed its superiority over red clover. The following spring my father purchased thirty pounds of alfalfa seed in Minneapolis and seeded two acres in barley and had a good stand. The next summer this cut three heavy crops of hay and there was quite a fourth crop that we did not cut or pasture. In the spring we found the alfalfa all dead. This was a great disappointment and we were at a loss to know why it had winter killed.

Later we found that the Germans still had a perfect stand and upon careful inquiry found that they had suffered no loss whatever. I remember asking one of the Germans in regard to his alfalfa and he replied, "I cut him three times" and when I told him of ours killing he said, "I lose me no one plant."

At this time an article appeared in the Farmers Tribune telling of the great feeding value of alfalfa but it said that alfalfa could not be grown in Minnesota except in Carver County and attributed our success to soil conditions. I read between the lines and formed the opinion that these Germans had a hardy variety. Upon investigation I found that the successful growers were getting their seed from a man named Grimm, while those that planted other seed were not successful. I told many of my discovery but they thought little of it, not realizing the value of alfalfa.

In 1900 I told Prof. W. M. Hayes of our Experiment Station. He took a great interest and the following July accompanied by Prof. Andrew Boss drove out to our place to investigate. They not only examined our fields but the fields of the German farmers in different parts of the county. The farmers were questioned as to where they had received their seed. After a most careful examination Prof. Hayes turned to Prof. Boss and said "This marks the beginning of alfalfa for Minnesota."

In March, 1903, he wrote Press Bulletin No. 20 in which he named this alfalfa Grimm, in honor of the old German that had developed it. Mr. Grimm had begun with 20 pounds of seed he had brought from Germany in 1857. For years he suffered loss by winter killing, but he was persistent and would not give up. He patiently saved seed from the plants that survived. By so doing he built up a hardy alfalfa. As early as 1904 the Department at Washington became interested in this hardy alfalfa. From Page 25

of the **Annual Report of B. T. Galloway**, Chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry, we copy the following: "**Grimm Alfalfa**—The investigations of this valuable alfalfa planted in 1904 and begun the following spring, have now progressed to a point where positive recommendation as to its use can be made. Experiments thus far conducted indicate that this is the hardiest variety of **Medicago Sativa** of which we have knowledge. In an experiment



Mr. and Mrs. Wendelin Grimm, Originators of Grimm Alfalfa.

in co-operation with Prof. L. R. Waldron of Dickinson, N. D., 68 strains of alfalfa, including two Grimm alfalfas of slightly different heritage, were as near as possible subjected to identical conditions and treatment in hill and drill rows. This spring after a winter of normal severity preceded by a moist autumn the winter killing of the 68 kinds was found to range from 3 to 100 per cent. Seven-eighths of the varieties lost over one-half of their

stand. Of the nine strains that lost less than half, only two lost less than ten per cent and both of these were Grimm. Farmers of the northwest are deeply interested in alfalfa and especially in the Grimm. Efforts are being made to establish a Grimm alfalfa seed industry in order to safeguard farmers in making a purchase of seed."

Prof. L. R. Waldron who had this experiment in charge wrote as follows: "We found that the winter divided the alfalfa into two groups. These groups were the Grimm alfalfa and—the others. It is scarcely putting it too strongly to say that it is a public duty that the Grimm alfalfa be increased as rapidly as possible."



Fig. 1. Experimental Plants of Alfalfa in Hills and Drill Rows at Dickinson, North Dakota, Oct. 1st, 1908. Each Row Was Seeded With a Different Strain, 68 Kinds in All. Please Notice the Perfect Stand.

From Page 42 of the Annual Report of the Minnesota Agricultural Society of 1903, we copy the following:

Prof. Hayes: This is a young man I want to make an example of. When Mr. Lyman told me he had discovered this hardy alfalfa, I said to him, "You co-operate with the Experiment Station and I will co-operate with you, and we will give you a reputation as a seedsman." And if any of you have boys that can discover anything of this kind, and the station can help them to become notorious and get a little money out of it, I am going to aid them. The only way to push the seed-growing business is to get good prices for the seed. I expect to co-operate in helping Mr. Lyman distribute this seed where it will be used for growing seed. We expect to distribute some of it through the Department of Agriculture that it may be grown in other places

and the seed produced even more abundantly than in Minnesota. Ever since I saw those fields and saw the evidence among the Carver county farmers that this was a hardy variety it has been a very interesting matter.

Prof. Spillman: Mr. President, I am glad to see Professor Hayes take the stand that he does. I want to say a word about growing alfalfa seed. I cannot help but be impressed with this paper read by Mr. Lyman this afternoon as of vital importance to the future of agriculture in the State of Minnesota and in the Dakotas. We have been searching the world for a variety of alfalfa that would do just what this variety does * * * The value of that seed represents more than a million dollars to the State of



Fig. 2. The Same Experiment Illustrated in Fig. 1, June 10, 1909. The Two Full Rows remaining Are the Grimm Alfalfa. The Above Cuts Were Reproduced from Bulletin No. 185, which can be had by writing Bureau Plant Industry, Washington, D. C. My Grimm was used in this experiment.

Minnesota. The alfalfa plant, according to my estimation, is going to be in the future the most important forage plant on the American continent, unless it is possibly corn; within the next fifteen years, if it continues half of its present prosperity, it is going ahead of every other forage plant in this country except corn, and I would not be surprised if some day it exceeded the value of corn. We have been searching for protein to feed our live stock. Now alfalfa is the ideal plant. When you have alfalfa hay you don't have to buy linseed oil cake; in fact cornmeal is worth more than linseed oil cake when you are feeding alfalfa hay. Now that means a great deal to the Minnesota farmers. (Applause.)

ALFALFA SEED WITH A REAL PEDIGREE.

How A. B. Lyman Has Developed a Large Acreage of Grimm Alfalfa for
Seed Growing—Methods Used to Make a Legal Pedigree for Each
Pound of Seed—Value of Such a Pedigree.

BY JOHN BEATY, Editor

National Alfalfa Journal, Sioux Falls, S. D., March 1, 1916.

An up-to-date farmer would hardly think of buying a pure bred cow without getting her pedigree. The value of the pedigree has been taught until we understand that it is necessary to know from what families have come the animals we buy.

It is just as important that we have pedigrees of alfalfa seed. The editor has maintained this for some time, but has not said much about it, because there wasn't very much to say except theory. Here are some facts, however, and I present them because I know they will stand out as the very best argument that could be given. This is the story of what has been done, not what I think might be done.

The story is about A. B. Lyman, the man who has put Grimm alfalfa on the map and who has had in use for some time an accurate system of pedigrees. He hasn't started a registry book with a fee for each lot of seed registered. He has done all of the work of keeping pedigrees merely to feel sure in his own mind that he was selling his customers what he claimed. No doubt he had a vision that some day farmers would demand a pedigree of alfalfa and wanted to be prepared for it.

The story begins about 25 years ago when A. B. Lyman was a young man, teaching school in Carver County, Minnesota. It was in a German settlement and he was much interested in a crop they were growing which they called, "Ewiger Klee." He took a sample of the hay home and his father saw its superiority over red clover.

The following spring, his father purchased 30 pounds of alfalfa seed from a seedsman in Minneapolis, without asking for any particular kind, in fact there were not different varieties in those days as there are now. The seed he purchased, was evidently grown in a warmer climate than Minnesota so it killed out the second winter.

Another attempt was made with the same results. During these unfortunate experiments, the Germans continued to raise their "Ewiger Klee" (which means, "Everlasting clover"), and Young Lyman began to see the point. "They must have a variety different than what you have been attempting to grow," he told his father.

There were other people in the county that were failing with alfalfa, so Lyman began to inquire of his neighbors as to where they secured their seed. He found that all of the successful fields and none of the unsuccessful fields traced to one man. His name was Wendelin Grimm.

Needless to say, the next field that was sown on the Lyman farm was from the Grimm stock, and none but the true Grimm has been grown since.

The object on the start was entirely to raise fodder for the stock, but finally young Lyman discovered that there was a wide demand for a variety of alfalfa seed that would not winter kill, so he began to sell seed. The

development of this business is too long a story to tell here. Suffice it to say that last year \$25,000 worth of Grimm alfalfa seed was distributed by A. B. Lyman alone.

No, he didn't raise all of that on his own farm. How he did raise it is the story I started to tell.

Carver County, Minnesota, is not a good county in which to raise alfalfa seed. It raises good seed, but it is often so wet that it doesn't raise much seed. There are other localities that are much more sure of a crop than Minnesota. That is why Mr. Lyman leased land in Montana, Idaho and the two Dakotas. Please notice that word "leased." He didn't go out and buy seed. He leased land on which to raise seed and hired men to do the raising.

The reason he did this was so that he could keep his finger on the important thing, the pedigree. His lease requires that no seed but that he furnishes shall be used on the land he has leased, and that the grower shall deliver all of the seed to Mr. Lyman. In fact, it requires that either Mr. Lyman or his agent shall seal every sack of seed as it comes from the thrasher.

Now, what has been the result?

Mr. Lyman can give an exact pedigree of every field planted from his seed. It all traces back to the original stock brought to this country from Germany by Wendelin Grimm.

No, this system does not prevent unscrupulous parties from trying to take advantage of the reputation gained by Grimm alfalfa, but it does enable Mr. Lyman to prove that what he sells is what he claims it to be. He took me out into his seed house to show me some seed. It was in a double sack and the inside sack was sealed. This seal is broken when the seed is repacked for retail, but another seal is put on so that if a customer receives a package with the seal broken, he knows it has been tampered with by someone along the way, and he can immediately get another shipment in its place so as to be sure that he is getting true Grimm.

I hope that this story of Mr. Lyman's methods will give someone else a hint and will bring about the production of more pedigreed seed. The average man who raises seed doesn't know for sure just what kind of seed he is growing, and, of course, cannot tell his customers what kind it is. If we need a pedigree registry like the livestock men, we'll have it, but first we need a few men who are willing to keep their pedigrees as carefully as Mr. Lyman has. We would be glad to hear from you if you have any ideas on this subject.

From Government Bulletin No. 209. By Charles J. Brand, Bureau Plant Industry, Washington, D. C.

Page 21, Bulletin No. 209.

"Recognition of the superiority of the Grimm variety over ordinary alfalfa by Mr. Lyman and through him by Prof. Hayes of the Minnesota Station, marked a third era in the evolution of alfalfa culture in the Northwest."

"The Grimm alfalfa is much hardier than the ordinary kinds obtained from Kansas, Utah and elsewhere, and there is even strong reason to believe that it is the hardiest known form of the cultivated plant. It not

only endures extremely low temperatures with or without snow and other adverse conditions, but it can be cut with greater safety late in the fall and will bear more abuse in the way of pasturage than any other plant that has been compared with it until this time. There is some disagreement among investigators as to how Grimm alfalfa obtained its hardiness, but there is no difference of opinion that it is hardy.

"In his annual report in 1907, the Secretary of Agriculture predicted that the further extension of alfalfa growing on large areas is a prize that will be worth hundreds of millions of dollars annually. With due persistence and an intelligent use of present knowledge, the North and Northwest can now begin to collect at least a part of their ultimate share of this prize."

Bulletin No. 209 can be had by sending 10 cents to the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C. It gives a complete history of the Grimm variety.

In the fall of 1904 we sold the Bureau of Plant Industry, Washington, D. C., their first lot of Grimm seed.



Fig. 2. A 2-year-Old Plant of Montana Alfalfa (at the left) Compared With Stand of Grimm Alfalfa of Same Age (at the right). St. Anthony Park, Minn., August, 1909.

Not only have we supplied our Government and Experiment Stations, but we have filled many foreign orders, shipped to Finland, Australia, Argentine and Russia. Have supplied many orders to the Canadian Government. Their reports show that they must have hardy alfalfa. We have received wonderful reports from Russia. They have bought my seed on several occasions and find it much more hardy than their native kinds, also that it will thrive under very dry conditions.

INOCULATION.

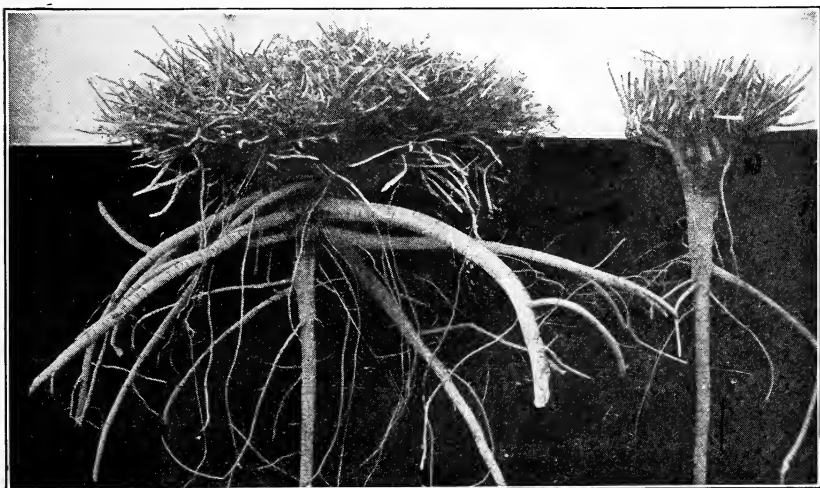
All legumes have tiny bacteria that work on their roots forming "nodules." These bacteria draw nitrogen from the air and supply the plants with it and also add it directly to the soil. In some soils this bacteria is found naturally and some is carried on the seed. It often pays to supply

this bacteria artificially when planting alfalfa. This can be done by scattering 100 pounds of alfalfa or sweet clover soil per acre when the alfalfa is seeded. Sow the soil on a cloudy day or late in the afternoon and harrow it in before the sun's rays strike it. Be certain that the field from which you secure the soil has this inoculation. If it is more than one year old and thrifty it is almost certain to have it.

I can supply legume bacteria for inoculating the seed. Notice the enclosed leaflet.

LIMING.

Western land like the Dakotas, Montana, or Nebraska, as a rule does not need liming. This is also true of the larger part of Minnesota. Some soils are acid. Soil can be tested by your Experiment Station, or you can make your own test by using litmus paper which can be procured at any drug store. By placing paper in the soil it will turn a reddish color if soil is acid. Alfalfa will often do well even when the litmus paper shows that the soil is acid. Failures often due to lack of hardiness of variety are attributed to acidity. No doubt but that some soils need liming. Ground limestone



THE GRIMM IN COMPARISON WITH ORDINARY ALFALFA.

This photograph was taken Nov. 1, 1910, by Prof. Philo K. Blinn, Alfalfa Specialist of the Experiment Station at Fort Collins, Colorado. Prof. Blinn writes that they are typical plants from their nursery plots, plants grown singly 20 by 20 inches, also that the one plant is 16 inches across the crown and calls attention to the low growing and underground stooling habit. This is the Grimm alfalfa, the smaller plant is of the same age grown under the same conditions and is typical of the common alfalfa. The Colorado Agricultural College has labeled the one "The Root of Prosperity."

is manufactured in many places in the United States and it can be bought where manufactured at \$1.25 per ton. It should be supplied at the rate of two tons per acre.

METHODS OF SEEDING.

Method of seeding depends largely on locality. On the dryer sections it is not safe to seed alfalfa with a nurse crop. In western Minnesota or the Dakotas I would prefer to seed the alfalfa alone during May or June after cultivating the ground for some time to start weed growth.

Here alfalfa is generally seeded with barley using ten to twelve pounds

of seed and three pecks of barley. Where oats are used they should be cut as a hay before ripening. July or August seeding is becoming very popular and this is practiced largely throughout the east. An excellent way is to seed alfalfa with a drill. Care must be taken to seed at an even depth and not too deep.

Where common alfalfa is seeded twenty pounds of seed is generally recommended per acre. This is not necessary with the Grimm as it stools more.

If seeded broadcast ten or twelve pounds will seed an acre. With a drill eight would be ample.

TIME TO CUT ALFALFA.

We begin cutting alfalfa when starting to blossom. Where one has a large acreage it will pay to begin cutting before any blossoms show. Some begin cutting when the alfalfa begins a new growth at the base of the plants.



\$2160 FOR TWENTY SACKS GRIMM ALFALFA

Which I shipped to U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., Dec. 7, 1912. In the Fall of 1913 I Sold Them Another Load of 4,000 lbs. for Which I Received \$2400.00

WHAT ALFALFA TO PLANT?

Grimm alfalfa is cheaper than common alfalfa as it requires less seed per acre because of its large stooling habit, another reason for requiring less seed in seeding an acre is that the little plants are more persistent in establishing themselves.

Grimm alfalfa is cheaper than common alfalfa because it will hold its stand and not thin out after the first severe winter. Because of its branch root system it will grow over a hard pan soil, and is adapted to wetter soil than the other alfalfa.

Common alfalfa from South Dakota is no more hardy than common alfalfa from Montana. Both have been winter killed completely, seeded under identical conditions beside my Grimm.

In buying live stock of every kind you are advised to get the best. This rule surely applies to buying alfalfa seed.

SEED GROWING.

The Grimm variety is a heavy seed producer. During the dry seasons profitable crops can be threshed in Minnesota, Wisconsin and as far east as New York. It will seed best where the land is not too rich and the season is reasonably dry.

Some of my customers in the Dakotas and Montana have threshed and sold over \$200 worth of Grimm seed per acre. One man in northern Montana grew 5000 pounds for which he received \$3,000. He wrote that he would not have received over \$600 had he grown common alfalfa. You can see that it paid him to seed "Lyman's Grimm."

WARNING AGAINST SPURIOUS GRIMM ALFALFA SEED.

Recent investigations by the Department of Agriculture have revealed the fact that large quantities of ordinary alfalfa seed are being offered for sale under the name of Grimm.

In the cases of some of this seed it was found that it was not even domestic seed, but was wholly or in part imported Turkestan seed. This practice of selling other seed for Grimm results in the farmer paying from 40 cents to \$1 or more per pound for seed which would otherwise sell for from 12 to 20 cents a pound, and inasmuch as the ordinary seed is not as hardy as Grimm, the first severe winter may kill the entire crop.

The original Grimm alfalfa sown in 1858 in Carver County, Minnesota, has undergone a natural cross with the common variety which, together with its exposure to numerous severe winters which have eliminated the weaker plants, has made it one of the hardiest of our commercial strains. The seed was produced originally entirely in Minnesota, but tests of the true variety since grown in Dakota, Montana and Idaho indicate that these lots are all of equal value and are quite as hardy as those grown in Minnesota.

As it is difficult to detect substitutes for Grimm in the seed, the farmers are urged to buy Grimm only from reliable dealers and, as far as possible, to trace the seed back to its source. In many cases the retailers are not deliberately perpetrating a fraud, as they have purchased this seed for Grimm and sell it in the belief that it is Grimm.

This seed has become very popular in regions of cold winters and is now used not only in the Northwest but in the East, particularly in northern New York and New England.—Weekly News Letter to Crop Correspondents, United States Department of Agriculture. Washington, D. C., November 5, 1913.

Mr. A. B. Lyman,
Excelsior, Minn.

Milford, Ill., Feb. 8th, 1916.

Dear Sir:—

I think every one in this vicinity knows that only Grimm alfalfa will survive the winters in this soil and climate.

Enough other alfalfa has been tried and it is now generally known that western alfalfa will not succeed permanently here.

I cannot understand why people are so apathetic in regard to alfalfa. The worst drawback we find is that it produces so many crops that it is always on hand, like a sore thumb. It has no regard at all for a farmers convenience when it needs cutting, it just has to be cut.

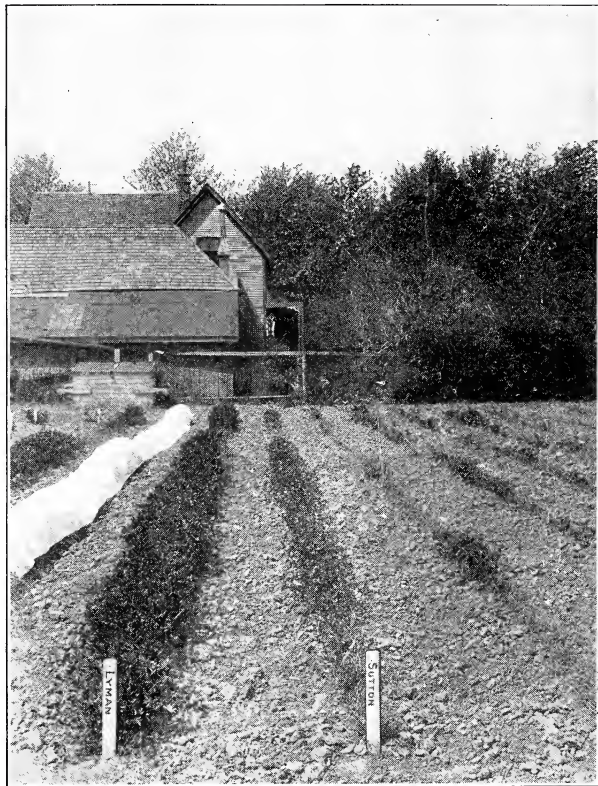
I have used perhaps 200 pounds of your seed and have always got a stand. It has never winterkilled.

Respectfully yours, DR. O. O. HALL.

In the spring of 1912 Prof. L. A. Klink of Macdonald College bought 300 pounds of my Grimm.

On Nov. 20th, 1914, R. Summerly, Lecturer in Cereal Husbandry, wrote me as follows:—I have your letter of November 10th, addressed to Prof. Klink. He has taken a position as Dean of Agriculture at the University of British Columbia.

With regard to the Grimm seed purchased from you some years ago by this Department, our experience has been that your alfalfa is by far the hardiest of any alfalfa that it was possible to purchase on the market. I am



"Lyman's Grimm" at Macdonald College, Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Que., Canada.

sending a photograph of Grimm alfalfa from you, along side of thirteen commercial samples. You will see that it is much hardier than the others. Out of 88 varieties and strains of alfalfa, "Lyman's Grimm" was amongst the few that came through the winter of 1912 and 1913, a very severe winter.

In another section of our experimental grounds, a half acre block of this alfalfa came through where Mammoth Red Clover, Medium Red Clover and Alsike Clover in similar adjoining blocks winterkilled. We are advising the use of Grimm seed whenever it is possible to get it for the Province of Quebec."

Three of my customers won large cash prizes put up by the Saskatchewan Government. These fields had to pass through at least three winters and had to contain not less than twenty acres before they could compete. Following are the names of men who planted Lyman's Grimm carrying off first, second and third prizes, respectively:

R. M. Johnson of Eastview, Sask., won first prize of \$500.00. Rackham & Smith of Loydminster won second prize of \$400.00, while Ed Sworder of Balcarras won third prize of \$300.00.



R. M. Johnson in \$500 Prize Field.

THE WHITE ADDING MACHINE CO.

CHAS. M. JARVIS, First Vice-President. York and Grove Streets

New Haven, Conn., June 13th, 1914.

Mr. A. B. Lyman, Prop.,
Alfa'fadale Farm, Excelsior, Minn.

My Dear Mr. Lyman:—

In 1911 I sowed about a quarter of an acre of land, half with your Grimm Alfalfa and the other half with ordinary alfalfa. During the crop year of 1912 and 1913 I noticed no appreciable difference in the yield between the two varieties. During the past winter, owing to severe sudden changes in the weather nearly all of the alfalfa in New England killed out. In the quarter acre referred to above the Grimm Alfalfa looks beautiful—as fine a piece of alfalfa as I have ever seen but the other half sowed with the ordinary seed is from twenty to forty per cent winterkilled. The line or demarkation between the two pieces is very clear and distinct. This proves conclusively to my mind, and I have been growing alfalfa for ten years, that Grimm is the only variety that will stand our New England climate and hereafter I shall sow nothing but Grimm. Enclosed please find order for 100 pounds to be shipped at once to me at Berlin, Conn., by express.

(Signed) Chas. M. Jarvis.

Mr. A. B. Lyman,
Excelsior, Minn.

Brookings, S. D., November 19, 1914.

Dear Sir:—

In reply to your letter of November 11th, I would state that we are growing Grimm alfalfa on all the farms of the South Dakota Experiment Station and that we use it as a standard by which we measure the value of other varieties. It is hardy and all points where we have experimental farms.

(Signed) Manley Champlin.

Assistant Agronomist in Charge of Field Experiments.

Mr. Stevens writes me as follows:—"This is one of our Grimm alfalfa plats seeded two and one-half feet apart on the hardest kind of volusia silt soil, a soil that our experiment stations said would not grow alfalfa. I am more than pleased with your seed and look forward to a decided increase of your variety as a result of these tests."



"Lyman's Grimm" Planted by F. R. Stevens, Agriculturist, for the Lehigh Valley R. R., of Geneva, N. Y.

M. E. Chubbick, the Farm Bureau man, of Herkimer, N. Y., sent me a photograph showing my Grimm a perfect stand while Grimm (?) from another source had killed completely the past winter.

I have hundreds of letters from eastern customers telling this same story. If you wish I will send you copies of such letters, some of which will be from your own state.

I can produce like testimonials from all sections of the country where hardy alfalfa is needed.

What has recently been written of Grimm victories in Russia are largely results obtained with seed that I sold the Russian Government.

Mr. A. B. Lyman,
Excelsior, Minn.

LeRoy, N. Y., Nov. 27th, 1914.

Dear Mr. Lyman:—

In answer to the questions regarding the Grimm alfalfa in your letter of the 11th, will say that the 20 pounds of seed I had of you in 1912 I sowed on July 8th at the rate of five pounds per acre. I sowed it with a grain drill, drills 7 inches apart and run them very shallow. I had prepared the land very carefully and applied one ton of lime per acre and inoculated it with about 300 pounds of soil from my old alfalfa field and gave it a good top-dressing of manure.

I secured a good stand and this year, the second year of cutting, I secured fully as much hay per acre as from common alfalfa sown under the same conditions at the rate of 20 to 25 pounds of seed. It branches more and is more leafy than the common alfalfa and is about one week earlier in coming into bloom. The bloom was very much heavier than on the common, and varied from white and yellow through all the shades to very dark purple and black.

Very respectfully yours,
(Signed) F. P. Hazelton.

Mr. A. B. Lyman,
Excelsior, Minn.
Dear Sir:—

Millston, Wis., Jan. 4th, 1915.

Your letter, inquiring as to the results of the Grimm alfalfa seed bought of you in 1911 and 1912, received. Will state that I sowed good common Montana seed each year I sowed yours. The Montana seeded fields killed out the winters following, with no loss to your Grimm alfalfa, although ice stood six inches thick on one spot for six weeks.

Out of seventeen fields of alfalfa seeded near my farm, twelve were Montana grown seed, which all winter killed; two were seed of unknown origin, one commercial Grimm and two fields seeded to your Grimm. All these fields have been plowed up, owing to poor stands, except the fields seeded with your Grimm seed. "They have made good."

I consider your seed cheap at any price for our soil and climate. In fact, I would not sow any other seed even if given to me, as I would consider it time and work thrown away.

Yours very truly, (Signed) E. M. Ivey.

Mr. A. B. Lyman,
Excelsior, Minn.
Dear Sir:—

Saskatoon, Sask., April 29th, 1915.

In reply to your letter of the 6th inst. I beg to say that the Grimm alfalfa seed that I got from you turned out very well. I have tried other varieties of seed, but have plowed most of the other varieties up on account of winterkilling. I have a few acres left which I intend to plow up this spring, so that I will grow nothing but Grimm alfalfa from now on. There has not been the slightest tendency to winterkilling of the Grimm variety. I inoculated some of the alfalfa I sowed with soil, but did not use any lime. The last forty acres I inoculated with culture which I received from the University. This gave me the best results of all. I am satisfied that Grimm is the variety of alfalfa best suited for this country.

Yours truly,

W. C. SUTHERLAND.

Mr. A. B. Lyman,
Excelsior, Minn.
Dear Sir:—

Spring Grove, Pa., July 23, 1915.

Referring to your letter of November 24th, I have come to the conclusion that the Grimm alfalfa raised from your seed winters a good deal better than any other seed we have bought. A friend of mine is thinking about putting out three acres next month. I would like to have you quote me a price on sufficient to put out about 5 acres.

Yours truly,

W. L. GLATFELTER.

Mr. A. B. Lyman,
Excelsior, Minn.
Dear Sir:—

P. O. Niverville, N. Y., August 17, 1915.

Kindly ship me at once 50 pounds of your Grimm alfalfa seed. I had 100 pounds of you last year and planted it with great success. There is not a weed in the field and not one plant winterkilled. It was well worth the money I paid for it.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) T. W. Barnes.

Mr. A. B. Lyman,
Excelsior, Minn.
Dear Sir:—

Enosburg Falls, Vt., February 8, 1916.

Re yours of February 4th would say I had fine success with your Grimm alfalfa and it is the only alfalfa seed I have been able to grow here. Have cut same for four years now, three crops a year. Am planning to use more of it this coming spring. Would not think of using anything but your Grimm seed.

Yours truly,

V. A. Irish,
Maplewood Farm.

PROPOGATION FIELDS.

I became interested in growing Grimm seed through Prof. W. M. Hayes in 1900. What Grimm fields there were then were largely in our neighborhood, Carver county, Minnesota, and I soon found that it would be necessary to have fields at other points in order to have seed each year.

In 1906 I started seed fields in northern Montana from Minnesota seed that I had planted for me under a seed contract. I have gradually increased these fields and have taken no chance on my seed being mixed with other alfalfa. I have visited these fields twice each summer and have often been present when same are threshed. If I am not there, I have a man present whose duty it is to seal the sacks and take no chance on this seed being mixed with other alfalfa.

I now have seed fields in the Dakotas and Montana, and feel certain of having a supply each season. As I have a record of the seed used in planting each field, I can trace the history of each stock right back to some Carver county farmer that has true Grimm seed. Remember if the seed can not be traced to Carver county, Minnesota, it has no claim whatsoever to the name Grimm.

I furnish each customer with an **AFFIDAVIT** certifying that the seed supplied is genuine Grimm Alfalfa.

PRICES

Lb. postpaid, 90c. Not prepaid, 10 lbs., \$8.00; 20 lbs., \$15.00; 60 lbs. and over 70 cents per lb.

We ship in sealed sacks. Our alfalfa shows a purity test of 99 per cent and over. If you find that it contains any seed or Dodder, Quack grass, Canada thistles, sow thistles, you can return same at our expense and we will cheerfully refund your money.

A. B. LYMAN

EXCELSIOR, MINNESOTA

PROPRIETOR OF ALFALFADALE FARM

2½ Miles South of Excelsior. Both Phones.

You Are Invited to Alfalfadale Farm.

Phone us and we will meet you at street car line.

References—

Dunn, Bradstreet, and the Minnetonka State Bank, Excelsior, Minn.